

HB456 Right of Parents to Protect Their Children

There are some who would have you believe this bill is about having sex education versus not having sex education. This is not true. This bill is about parents having the right and responsibility to monitor the kind of sex education their child is receiving. I very much want my child's sex education to be scientific and comprehensive, and I want my child to be able to protect himself from STD's and predators. What I **don't** want is for my child to be educated by groups who encourage risky sexual behavior.

Planned parenthood is coming into schools as an educator. At the planned parenthood site, their number one listed resource for helping with the teaching of sexuality topics is a site called sexedlibray.org. (You can find it at this address: <http://www.plannedparenthood.org/resources/activities-lesson-plans-29620.htm> .) This site subtly and not so subtly demonstrates the views of planned parenthood and other sister organizations on various issues including age-appropriate sex education.

A lesson plan for K-4th graders called "Our amazing bodies—every part deserves a proper name" should be an eye opener to everyone. This body parts lesson plan offers the following suggestions:

"Ask the children to touch and name the different parts of their bodies with you (non-private body parts for now). Set this activity to a musical beat." (SO PRIVATE BODY PARTS WILL BE ADDED TO THIS GAME LATER?)

"Next the children are given an opportunity to draw male and female external genitals on outline figures. The teacher makes clear that these parts are private, that they feel good to touch, that touching is done only in private" And, "Note that sometimes people touch these parts because it feels good to touch them, but because the parts are private, they are touched only in private places. Ask the children to suggest private places (i.e., their bedrooms and the bathroom)."

So planned parenthood believes that age-appropriate education for your younger school children should include masturbation lessons. This is reinforced by information provided at their site. They list 5 to 7 year olds as needing to know the following about sexuality: "that it's normal to touch one's sex organs for pleasure," and "that people experience sexual pleasure in a number of different ways." How do 5 to 7 year olds experience sexual pleasure in a number of different ways? So if this is considered age-appropriate for 5 year olds, what is considered age-appropriate for teens?

The sexedlibrary.org collection promoted by planned parent hood includes lesson plans for teens about abstinence. One of these is called "Not doing it is not enough: defining abstinence with teens." The title sound positive, but it's really an ironic commentary on the content of the lesson:

"If youth are given the impression that all types of sexual contact are "off limits," they may feel discouraged from participating in the discussion."

". . . 'outercourse' discussion allows educators to discuss alternatives to sexual intercourse like hand holding, kissing, back massage or even masturbation. . . . (For more alternatives to sexual intercourse, go to ETR Associates Publishing and search for the pamphlet "101 Ways to Make Love Without Doin' It.)"

And parents thought they wanted more abstinence-focused discussion. Planned parenthood has more to say about abstinence at their own site as follows, "You may have heard people talk about abstinence in different ways. . . . They may enjoy other kinds of sex play that don't lead to pregnancy. This is better described as outercourse. " In this dialogue, the terms "sex play" and "outercourse" are both internal links that lead to a listings of sexual options. The listing includes some of the following: watching or reading erotica, anal & oral sex, sado masochism—defined by the site as the use of domination and/or pain for sexual arousal, Bondage & Discipline—defined as sexual role playing that includes elements of sadism and masochism, watersports which is using urine or urination as part of sex play, and finally paraphilia—one of a wide variety of uncommon sex practices that a person may find necessary for sexual arousal. Paraphilia links to another huge

list detailing deviant sexual acts that I won't torment you with but you get the picture.

Any positive statements planned parenthood make at their site about being responsible and the benefits of abstinence are negated by much encouragement to the contrary. The focus of the inf. they give teenagers is very much on sexual options and the fun of sexual experimentation rather than on responsibility and the social, emotional, financial, and physical benefits of waiting to have sex and then having a monogamous relationship. In my opinion the site is more sensational than educational. But you don't take my word for it. Check this site out for yourself by going to either www.plannedparent.org/montana or to www.plannedparenthood.org.

Planned Parenthood and NARAL have similar ideologies when it comes sex ed. As can clearly be seen at their sites. They certainly have the right to lobby for their point of view--but not in my child's school. I'm mainly a parent, not a statistical analyst. But it seems like common sense to me to eliminate any conflict of interest or even any potential conflict of interest by keeping abortion providers out of our schools educational process. Please support HB456.

Notes: Last I looked Sexedlibrary.org had no search bar and was reorganizing and renaming, so it was difficult to find specific things, but I still encourage you to look through their library. The lesson plans reviewed in this paper were submitted to sexedlibrary.com by ETR Associates, and I discovered they can be found most easily at the ETR site <http://www.etr.org/recapp> under "learning activities." I refer to the following lesson plans: "Our Amazing Bodies—Every Part Deserves a Name" by Peggy Brick, 2007-2009; "Not Doing It is Not Enough: Defining Abstinence With Teens," ETR Associates, 2007-2009. ETR Associates tend to be a particularly disturbing contributor to the sexedlibrary.org site.